



## PATENT APPLICATION

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Osamu OKUMURA et al.

Group Art Unit: 2871

Application No.:

10/828,331

Examiner:

M. TON

Filed: April 21, 2004

Docket No.: 038959.02

For:

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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after  $\boxtimes$ the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection, Notice of Allowance or other action that closes prosecution (e.g., Quayle Action).
  - Attached is our Check No. 175731 in the amount of \$180.00 in payment  $\boxtimes$ of the fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p). Please credit or debit Deposit Account No. 15-0461 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information. Two duplicate copies of this paper are attached.
- In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2)(ii), copies of any U.S. patents and patent 冈 2. application publications are not attached.

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3. The references were cited by or submitted to the Office in parent application No. 09/671,354, filed September 27, 2000, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120. Thus, copies of these references are not attached. 37 CFR §1.98(d). See Reference 2.

Respectfully submitted,

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JAO:SWA/jam

Date: January 26, 2006

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					DATE 1,2004	GROUP 2871			
		U.	S. PATEN	T DOCU	MENTS				
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	2	6,084,650	07/2000		Sekiguchi				
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